CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being submitted *via* the USPTO EFS Filing System on the date shown below to Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: January 5, 2009 /Karla D. Osolin/
Karla D. Osolin

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:			
Applicant(s):	Matthew B. MacLaurin, *et al.*	Examiner:	Brandon Parker
Serial No:	10/801,799	Art Unit:	2174
Filing Date:	March 16, 2004	Conf. No:	1907

Title: INTERACTIVE PREVIEW OF GROUP CONTENTS VIA AXIAL CONTROLLER

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APPEAL BRIEF

Dear Sir:

Appellants' representative submits this brief in connection with an appeal of the above-identified patent application. Payment is being submitted via credit card in connection with all fees due regarding this appeal brief. In the event any additional fees may be due and/or are not covered by the credit card, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP544US].

I. Real Party in Interest (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(i))

The real party in interest in the present appeal is Microsoft Corporation, the assignee of the present application.

II. Related Appeals and Interferences (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(ii))

Appellants, appellants' legal representative, and/or the assignee of the present application are not aware of any appeals or interferences which may be related to, will directly affect, or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

III. Status of Claims (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(iii))

Claims 2, 12, 19 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 3-11, 13-18, and 20-23 stand rejected by the Examiner. The rejection of claims 1, 3-11, 13-18, and 20-23 is being appealed.

IV. Status of Amendments (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(iv))

Amendments after Final Office Action dated July 14, 2008, have been entered, as indicated in Advisory Action dated October 7, 2008.

V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(v))

A. Independent claim 1

The subject independent recites a system for displaying item collection previews. The system comprises at least one display object having metadata tags describing two or more data items in a collection of data items (see, e.g., page 5, lines 18-20; element 110, FIG. 1; page 8, lines 15-24, FIG. 3); a control component configured to selectively animate a presentation of the items based in part on the metadata tags and detected user activities (see, e.g., page 4, lines 26-28); global controls for collecting unrelated items in a set of items to subsequently preview the items (see, e.g., page 6, lines 21-26); and one or more controller inputs to control the presentation of the items, wherein a user utilizes the one or more controller inputs to navigate the collection of data items *via* selecting an item in the collection, selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection allowing the user

to navigate the rest of the collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item (see, e.g., page 10, line 29-page 11, line 3; elements 610 and 630, FIG. 6).

B. Independent claim 16

The subject independent claim recites a system configured to facilitate information preview from a collection. The system comprises means for displaying a set of information items (see, e.g., page 5, lines 18-20; element 110, FIG. 1); means for selecting the set of information items to find an approximate position of an item in the set of information items, wherein selection of the item changes the order of the set and moves the selected item to the front of the set (see, e.g., page 6, lines 21-26; element 170, FIG. 1); means for allowing a user to navigate the rest of the set in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item (page 6, lines 21-26; element 180, FIG. 1); means for detecting a value with respect to the set of information items (page 6, lines 21-26; element 180, FIG. 1); and means for previewing the information items based upon incrementing or decrementing the value (page 6, line 27-page 7, line 14; element 110, FIG. 1).

The "means for performing a function" limitations described above are identified as limitations subject to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph. The structures corresponding to these limitations are identified with reference to the specification and drawings in the above parenthetical notes.

C. Independent claim 17

The subject independent claim recites a method to facilitate information previews from a set of items. The method comprises selecting a stack of display items with a first control (see, e.g., page 11, lines 18-19; page 5, lines 27-29); cycling the stack of display items with a second control in order to provide an information preview with respect to at least one of the items (see, e.g., page 11, lines 22-29; FIG. 7; or page 6, lines 3-5); a third control for gathering dissimilar items in a set of items to consequently preview the items (see, e.g., page 11, lines 22-29); employing the first control to find an approximate position of an item in the stack of display items, wherein selection of the item changes the order of the stack of display items and moves the selected item to the front of the stack (see, e.g., page 10, line 29-page 11, line 3; elements 610 and 630, FIG. 6); and allowing a user to navigate the rest of the stack in a finer-grained

manner starting at the selected item (see, e.g., page 10, line 29-page 11, line 3; elements 610 and 630, FIG. 6).

D. Independent claim 22

The subject independent claim recites a graphical user interface. The graphical interface comprises a display object for displaying a group of pages (see, e.g., page 5, lines 18-20; element 110, FIG. 1); a tag associated with each member page from the group of pages; a cursor to select the group of pages (see, e.g., page 5, lines 27-29; page 10, lines 20-29); an axial controller to cycle the group of pages using the associated tags (see, e.g., page 5, lines 18-26; element 120, FIG. 1); global controls for accumulating dissimilar items in a set of items to later preview the items (see, e.g., page 6, lines 21-26); and one or more controller inputs to control the presentation of the group of pages, wherein a user utilizes the one or more controller inputs to navigate the group of pages *via* selecting a member page in the group, selection of the member page changes the order of the group and moves the selected member page to the front of the group allowing the user to navigate the rest of the group in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected member page (see, e.g., page 6, lines 21-26; page 10, line 29-page 11, line 3).

VI. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(vi))

A. Whether claims 1, 3-11, 13-16, 22, and 23 are obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Card et al. (US 7,069,518) in view of Johnson et al. (US 2003/0132953) in further view of Fredlund et al. (US 2003/0128287) in further view of Raghunath (US 7,081,905).

B. Whether claims 17, 18, 20, and 21 are obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Card et al. (US 7,069,518) in view of Fredlund et al. (US 2003/0128287) in further view of Raghunath (US 7,081,905).

VII. Argument (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(vii))

A. Rejection of Claims 1, 3-11, 13-16, 22, and 23 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 3-11, 13-16, 22, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Card et al. (US 7,069,518) in view of Johnson et al. (US 2003/0132953) in further view of Fredlund et al. (US 2003/0128287) in further view of Raghunath (US 7,081,905). Applicants' representative respectfully request this rejection of the subject claims be reversed for the following reasons.

Applicants' claimed subject matter relates to systems and methods that facilitate previewing content of stacked or grouped information displays in an efficient manner. Dynamically-generated collections of documents or files can be represented as single icons or entities, and form part of the next generation file system user interfaces.

Claims 1, 3-11, and 13-15.—Independent claim 1 (from which claims 3-11 and 13-15 depend) recites, in part: *one or more controller inputs to control the presentation of the items, wherein a user utilizes the one or more controller inputs to navigate the collection of data items via selecting an item in the collection,* ***selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection*** *allowing the user to navigate the rest of the collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item.* Card et al., Johnson et al., Fredlund et al., and Raghunath et al., alone or in combination, fail to disclose expressly or inherently such novel claimed feature.

Card et al. relates to "[…] image display systems, and, in particular, user interfaces for the display and operation of large-scale informational sources, such as hypertext, three-dimensional books, databases, and other repositories of information." (See col. 1:33-37; Card et al.) In addition, the primary reference discloses (col. 3:5-10): "The present invention comprises a system for displaying images of a virtual three-dimensional book having one or more virtual pages. The system comprises a display system capable of executing a display program. Images of the virtual three-dimensional book are produced on the display system." Card et al. also discloses sliding-out virtual pages from a book (see col. 5, line 60-col. 6, line 6, and FIGs. 2A-2C; Card et al.). In particular the primary reference discloses (col. 5, line 60-col. 6, line 6): "[…] 'sliding-out' a virtual page only serves to display that virtual page in a different position on the computer display **separate from the visual representation of the rest of the virtual three-**

dimensional book. In this way, "sliding-out" **does not denote the removal of data associated with a virtual page from its logical order** in the electronic representation of a virtual three-dimensional book. A "slide-out" page will still appear in the electronic representation of the virtual three-dimensional book despite the fact it may appear separately from the virtual three-dimensional book on the display. (Emphasis added.)" Moreover, Card et al. discloses implementation(s) of bookmarks (see, e.g., Abstract, col. 3:27-32, or col. 20, line 38-col. 21, line 2; and FIGs. 25-26; Card et al.), utilization of indicia to "provide content information" and select specific portions of large books (see, e.g., FIGs. 28-29 and col. 21:25-50; Card et al.) Yet, Card et al. fails to disclose expressly or inherently the limitation of *[...]* ***selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection*** *allowing the user to navigate the rest of the collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item*, as recited in independent claim 1. Rather, as presented above, Card et al. displays a virtual page separate from a representation of a virtual three-dimensional book, in addition to preserving a logical ordering in the electronic representation of the virtual book.

With respect to the secondary reference, Johnson et al. relates to "[a] media browsing system prepares various media content and synchronizes the content with a media player for playback." (Abstract; Johnson et al.) In particular the secondary reference discloses (¶[0009]): "systems and methods provide for acquiring commonly accessed information and presenting such information in a preconfigured format through a user interface that is common across various media players" Yet, Johnson et al. fails to disclose the novel feature of *[...]* ***selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection*** *allowing the user to navigate the rest of the collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item*, as recited in independent claim 1. Accordingly, the secondary reference fails to remedy the aforementioned deficiencies of Card et al.

Appellants' representative notes that Johnson et al. discloses that "preparation of retrieved data involves building or generating playlists (220, 222) from the retrieved data" (¶[0047]; Johnson et al.) Additionally, Johnson et al. discloses, in paragraph [0048], that "playlists 220 and 222 are customized lists of content that contain files (or point to files) specified by a user for playback on a media player 102." Moreover, the secondary reference discloses that "organizing content by playlists enables the user to group various media content together to be played in any order specified by the user." Yet, playlists are not *a control*

component configured to selectively animate a presentation of the items ***based in part on the metadata tags*** *and detected user activities*, as recited in independent claim 1.

Appellants' representative further notes that, in contrast to what is contended on page 4 of the Advisory Action dated October 7, 2008, the "reverse" described in paragraph [0089] of Johnson et al. does not move the selected item to the front of the collection. Rather, paragraph [0089] of the secondary reference discloses functions associated with buttons on a common user interface 1312, in which Reverse function provides two actions: (1) Skip to next media file in the current playlist 220, 222. Display is changed to next title description of the media file. (2) Skip to last media file in current playlist 220, 222. Display is changed to last title description of the media file. It is readily appreciated that functionality of Reverse fails to provide a change of order of a collection as a result of selection of an item in the collection and it fails to move the selected item to the front of the collection; namely, Reverse function fails to disclose novel feature of *[...]* ***selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection*** *allowing the user to navigate the rest of the collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item*. Rather, Reverse function switches execution of media files in a playlist in a "preset" manner that fails to entail reorder of the playlist.

Fredlund et al. is directed to "system for creating lentricular motion cards from digital image files captured by a camera. More particularly, the invention is directed to a system for previewing and selecting digital images captured by a digital camera or by a hybrid film/digital camera." (See ¶[0001]; Fredlund et al.) In addition, Fredlund et al. discloses (¶[0009]): "[…] a display for displaying a motion sequence of captured images, a user interface for selecting a subset of the captured digital images […]." Yet, the tertiary reference is silent regarding *[...]* ***selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection*** *allowing the user to navigate the rest of the collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item*, as recited in independent claim 1.

Additionally, Appellants' representative notes that on pages 3-4 of Office Action dated July 14, 2008, it is conceded that the combination of Card et al., Johnson et al., and Fredlund et al. fail to disclose *one or more controller inputs to control the presentation of the items, wherein a user utilizes the one or more controller inputs to navigate the collection of data items via selecting an item in the collection,* ***selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection*** *allowing the user to navigate the rest of the*

collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item, as recited in independent claim 1.

Raghunath relates to "mobile computing devices such as personal digital assistants (PDAs), cellular phones, pagers, and the like" (see col. 1:10-11; Raghunath). Moreover, Raghunath et al. discloses (col. 2:43-50): "an interactive user interface implementing a dynamic scroll device for enabling scrolling through text and graphics displayed via the user interface in a manner such that the amount of user manipulation of the scroller to get to a particular position in the display the user wants to get to is reduced, while retaining fine-grain control over positioning without needing excessive scroller manipulation." Yet, Raghunath fails to disclose *[...]* ***selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection*** *allowing the user to navigate the rest of the collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item*, as recited in independent claim 1. Rather, Raghunath provides a scrolling capability to a user but does not address ordering aspects of a selection of items.

Appellants' representative notes that in the novel feature recited in independent claim 1, it is the selection of an item and an associated change order in a collection to which the item belongs that allows a user to navigate a rest of a collection in a ***finer-grained manner started at the selected item***. Accordingly, it is submitted that even though Raghunath discloses a dynamic scroll device that provides fine-grain control, Raghunath fails to disclose expressly or inherently the limitation of *one or more controller inputs to control the presentation of the items, wherein a user utilizes the one or more controller inputs to navigate the collection of data items via selecting an item in the collection,* ***selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection*** *allowing the user to navigate the rest of the collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item*, as recited in independent claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection of independent claim 1, and associated dependent claims, is based on the assertion that it is obvious to combine references to attain feature(s) and associated advantage(s) not disclosed in the references, alone or in combination; the feature(s) recited in the claimed subject matter.

Claim 16.—The subject independent claim recites: *means for selecting the set of information items to find an approximate position of an item in the set of information items,*

wherein ***selection of the item changes the order of the set and moves the selected item to the front of the set***. Card et al., Johnson et al., Fredlund et al., and Raghunath et al., alone or in combination, fail to disclose expressly or inherently such novel claimed feature.

Appellants' representative notes that on page 7 of Final Office Action dated July 14, 2008, it is conceded that Card et al. "does not explicitly show selecting the set of information items to find an approximated position of an item in the set of information item, wherein selection of the item changes the order of the set and moves the selected item to the front of the set; means for allowing a user to navigate the rest of the set in a finer grained manner starting at the selected item." At discussed above, Johnson et al. fails to remedy the conceded deficiencies of the primary reference, and neither does Fredlund et al. With respect to Raghunath, even though it is disclosed therein a fine-grain scroll indicator movement, the reference fails to remedy the conceded deficiency of Card, which is not cured by neither Johnson et al. nor Fredlund et al., in connection with the claimed feature of *means for selecting the set of information items to find an approximate position of an item in the set of information items, wherein* ***selection of the item changes the order of the set and moves the selected item to the front of the set***.

For at least the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection of independent claim 16, and associated dependent claims, is based on the assertion that it is obvious to combine references to arrive at feature(s), and associated advantage(s), not disclosed in the references, alone or in combination; the feature(s) recited in the claimed subject matter.

Claim 22 and 23.—Independent claim 22 (from which claim 23 depends) recites: *one or more controller inputs to control the presentation of the group of pages, wherein a user utilizes the one or more controller inputs to navigate the group of pages via selecting a member page in the group,* ***selection of the member page changes the order of the group and moves the selected member page to the front of the group*** *allowing the user to navigate the rest of the group in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected member page.* Card et al., Johnson et al., Fredlund et al., and Raghunath, alone or in combination, fail to disclose expressly or inherently such novel claimed feature.

For at least the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection of independent claim 22, and associated dependent claims, is based on the assertion that it is

obvious to combine references to arrive at claimed feature(s), and associated advantage(s), even though the claimed feature(s) is not disclosed in the references, alone or in combination.

Appellants' representative notes that pages 7-8 of Final Office Action dated July 14, 2008, no argument is set forth as to why the combination of Card et al., Johnson et al., Fredlund et al., and Raghunath makes obvious the foregoing limitation recited in independent claim 22. Rather, on page 8 of Final Office Action dated July 14, 2008, it is contended that "[i]t would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to combine the metadata tags as taught by Johnson with the three dimensional book of Card to efficiently manage data while navigating a group of files or items and further combine the unrelated images as taught by Fredlund to the modified Card to effectively and efficiently select and preview a sequence of items on a display." Appellants' representative respectfully submits that such assertion fails to convey an argument as to why the combination of the four cited references arrives at the novel features recited in the claimed subject matters; instead, the assertions appears to be a conclusory statement rather than an articulated reasoning to support the legal conclusion of obviousness.

Disqualification of Johnson et al. under 35 U.S.C. 103(c).—Johnson et al. is not citable prior art with respect to the present application. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. §103(c) which forms at least one basis for withdrawal of this rejection:

> (c) Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (e), (f), and or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

The subject matter of Johnson et al. and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, subject to an obligation of assignment to Microsoft Corporation. Therefore, Johnson et al. is not a citable reference with respect to the subject application. In view of the foregoing, the rejection should be withdrawn.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants' representative respectfully submits that the combination of Card et al., Johnson et al., Fredlund et al., and Raghunath, fails to make obvious the novel limitations recited in claims 1, 3-11, 13-16, 22, and 23, and respectfully request the subject claims be allowed.

B. Rejection of Claims 17, 18, 20, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 17, 18, 20, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Card et al. (US 7,069,518) in view of Fredlund et al. (US 2003/0128287) in further view of Raghunath (US 7,081,905). Applicants' representative respectfully request this rejection of the subject claims be reversed for at least the following reasons.

Independent ***claim 17*** (from which claims 18, 20, and 21 depend) recites, in part: *employing the first control to find an approximate position of an item in the stack of display items, wherein* ***selection of the item changes the order of the stack of display items and moves the selected item to the front of the stack***. Card et al., Fredlund et al., and Raghunath et al., alone or in combination, fails to teach or suggest such novel claimed feature.

Card et al. relates to "[…] image display systems, and, in particular, user interfaces for the display and operation of large-scale informational sources, such as hypertext, three-dimensional books, databases, and other repositories of information." (See col. 1:33-37; Card et al.). In particular, Card et al. discloses (col. 5, line 60-col. 6, line 6): "[…] 'sliding-out' a virtual page only serves to display that virtual page in a different position on the computer display **separate from the visual representation of the rest of the virtual three-dimensional book**. In this way, "sliding-out" **does not denote the removal of data associated with a virtual page from its logical order** in the electronic representation of a virtual three-dimensional book. A "slide-out" page will still appear in the electronic representation of the virtual three-dimensional book despite the fact it may appear separately from the virtual three-dimensional book on the display. (Emphasis added.)" Yet, in such passage or other portions of the cited document, Card et al. fails to disclose expressly or inherently the limitation of *[…]* ***selection of the item changes the order of the stack of display items and moves the selected item to the front of the stack***, as recited in independent claim 17. Rather, in Card et al. selection of a page for display retains a logical ordering in the electronic representation of the virtual book.

Fredlund et al. does not make up for the foregoing deficiency of Card et al. Fredlund et al. is directed to "system for creating lenticular motion cards from digital image files captured by a camera. More particularly, the invention is directed to a system for previewing and selecting digital images captured by a digital camera or by a hybrid film/digital camera." (See ¶[0001]; Fredlund et al.) In addition, Fredlund et al. discloses (¶[0009]): "[…] a display for displaying a motion sequence of captured images, a user interface for selecting a subset of the captured digital

images […]." Yet, the secondary reference is silent regarding ***[...] selection of the item changes the order of the stack of display items and moves the selected item to the front of the stack***, as recited in independent claim 17.

With respect to combination of Card et al and Fredlund et al., Appellants' representative notes that on page 10 of Final Office Action dated July 14, 2008, it is conceded that "Card and Fredlund does not show employing the first control to find an approximate position of an item in the stack of display items."

With respect to Raghunath, this tertiary reference fails to make up for the deficiencies of Cart et al. and Fredlund et al., alone or in combination. Raghunath relates to "mobile computing devices such as personal digital assistants (PDAs), cellular phones, pagers, and the like" (see col. 1:10-11; Raghunath). Moreover, Raghunath et al. discloses (col. 2:43-50): "an interactive user interface implementing a dynamic scroll device for enabling scrolling through text and graphics displayed via the user interface in a manner such that the amount of user manipulation of the scroller to get to a particular position in the display the user wants to get to is reduced, while retaining fine-grain control over positioning without needing excessive scroller manipulation." Yet, Raghunath fails to disclose ***[...] selection of the item changes the order of the stack of display items and moves the selected item to the front of the stack***, as recited in independent claim 17. Rather, Raghunath provides a scrolling capability, i.e., a dynamic scroll device, to a user but fails to address ordering aspects of a selection of items.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection of independent claim 17, and associated dependent claims, is based on the assertion that it is obvious to combine references to attain feature(s) and associated advantage(s) not disclosed in such references, alone or in combination; the feature(s) recited in the claimed subject matter.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants' representative respectfully submits that the combination of Card et al., Fredlund et al., and Raghunath, fails to make obvious the novel limitations recited in claims 17, 18, 20, and 21, and respectfully request the subject claims be allowed.

C. Conclusion

For at least the above reasons, the claims currently under consideration are believed to be patentable over the cited references. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of claims 1, 3-11, 13-18, and 20-23 be reversed.

If any additional fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP544US].

Respectfully submitted,
AMIN, TUROCY & CALVIN, LLP

/Himanshu S. Amin/
Himanshu S. Amin
Reg. No. 40,894

AMIN, TUROCY & CALVIN, LLP
127 Public Square
57th Floor, Key Tower
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Telephone: (216) 696-8730
Facsimile: (216) 696-8731

VIII. Claims Appendix (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(viii))

1. A system for displaying item collection previews, comprising:

at least one display object having metadata tags describing two or more data items in a collection of data items;

a control component configured to selectively animate a presentation of the items based in part on the metadata tags and detected user activities;

global controls for collecting unrelated items in a set of items to subsequently preview the items; and

one or more controller inputs to control the presentation of the items, wherein a user utilizes the one or more controller inputs to navigate the collection of data items *via* selecting an item in the collection, selection of the item changes the order of the collection and moves the selected item to the front of the collection allowing the user to navigate the rest of the collection in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item.

2. (Canceled)

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the controller inputs include at least one of a mouse cursor control, a mouse wheel control, a voice command, an eye-gaze control, and a mechanical control to control the presentation of items.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the collection of data items further comprising a top item displayed as a thumbnail preview or an expanded size preview.

5. The system of claim 1, further comprising a control to provide a transitional animation employed to visually link movement of an axial controller with a change in a displayed icon.

6. The system of claim 1, further comprising a currently selected preview image, the currently selected preview image integrated with a collection icon as a reminder of collection contents.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the control component further comprises at least one of an object locator, a command detector, a content analyzer, and a formatter to selectively animate the presentation of the items.

8. The system of claim 1, further comprising a graphical user interface to selectively animate the presentation of items.

9. The system of claim 8, the graphical user interface further comprising a set of preference controls configured to change, by type of item, preview visualizations and access behaviors associated therewith.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the items include one or more subcomponents configured to be previewed, selected, or displayed.

11. The system of claim 1, wherein the items can be previewed in two dimensional or three dimensional form.

12. (Canceled)

13. The system of claim 1, further comprising controls to scale the items to be previewed.

14. The system of claim 1, further comprising a control to determine a rough position in a collection of items.

15. A computer readable medium having computer readable instructions stored thereon for implementing at least one of the display object and the control component of claim 1.

16. A system configured to facilitate information preview from a collection, comprising:

means for displaying a set of information items;

means for selecting the set of information items to find an approximate position of an item in the set of information items, wherein selection of the item changes the order of the set and moves the selected item to the front of the set;

means for allowing a user to navigate the rest of the set in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item;

means for detecting a value with respect to the set of information items; and

means for previewing the information items based upon incrementing or decrementing the value.

17. A method to facilitate information previews from a set of items, comprising:

selecting a stack of display items with a first control;

cycling the stack of display items with a second control in order to provide an information preview with respect to at least one of the items;

a third control for gathering dissimilar items in a set of items to consequently preview the items;

employing the first control to find an approximate position of an item in the stack of display items, wherein selection of the item changes the order of the stack of display items and moves the selected item to the front of the stack; and

allowing a user to navigate the rest of the stack in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected item.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising providing a transitional display for at least two display items in accordance with the second control.

19. (Canceled)

20. The method of claim 17, the information preview is associated with at least one of a display configured to be about the same size as the stack, smaller than the stack, and larger than the stack.

21. The method of claim 17, wherein the first control is associated with a cursor which is controlled by a mouse and wherein the second control is associated with a wheel of the mouse.

22. A graphical user interface, comprising:

a display object for displaying a group of pages;

a tag associated with each member page from the group of pages;

a cursor to select the group of pages;

an axial controller to cycle the group of pages using the associated tags;

global controls for accumulating dissimilar items in a set of items to later preview the items; and

one or more controller inputs to control the presentation of the group of pages, wherein a user utilizes the one or more controller inputs to navigate the group of pages *via* selecting a member page in the group, selection of the member page changes the order of the group and moves the selected member page to the front of the group allowing the user to navigate the rest of the group in a finer-grained manner starting at the selected member page.

23. The graphical user interface of claim 22, wherein the axial controller causes a transition animation between pages when cycling the group of pages.

IX. Evidence Appendix (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(ix))

None.

X. Related Proceedings Appendix (37 C.F.R. §41.37(c)(1)(x))

None.